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ABSTRACT

Compiled here are the following Council-related reports and papers from the 1985 general conference of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA): (1) "Trends 1983-84," which is a report to the Council by the Secretary General, Margreet Wijnstroom, and includes sections on the organization, its actions as the global voice of librarianship, publications, the Third World, core programs, professional grassroots, and finances; (2) "General Comments on the IFLA Accounts 1983 and 1984, and the Budgetary Guidelines for 1985 and 1986" (Marie-Louise Bossuat, Treasurer of IFLA, France); (3) "Background and Current Achievements of the International MARC (Machine Readable Catalog) Project-Deutsche Bibliothek (IMP-DB)" (Dieter Wolf, West Germany); (4) "Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World" (Margreet Wijnstroom, Secretary General of IFLA, The Netherlands); (5) "UAP (Universal Availability of Publications): Progress Report" (Stephen C. J. Vickers, United Kingdom); (6) "The Functioning of an IFLA Division" (Max Broome, Chairman, Division of Libraries Serving the General Public, United Kingdom); and (7) "Review of IFLA's Regional Program 'The 25 Essential Points' in Perspective" (J. S. Soosai, Malaysia). (THC)

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IFLA

Trends 1983 - 84

Report to the Council - 1985
by the
Secretary General

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IFLA

Trends 1983 - 84

Report to the Council - 1985
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Secretary General

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1. IFLA as an Organization

1.1 *Quantitative aspects*

The highlights of IFLA activities for 1983 and 1984 have been published in *IFLA Journal* 1984, No. 2 and 1985, No. 2 respectively. The main statistics are recorded here:

	per 31-12-82	31-12-84	increase/decrease
Members/Affiliates	1101	1182	81 (7.3%)
Countries covered	119	121	2
Industrialized 37/40			
Third World 82/81			
Persons with direct responsibilities within IFLA (officers and members of advisory groups)	392	421	29 (7.4%)
Registration for Sections	2879	2992	113 (4%)
Staff under contract (number of positions)	9¼	8¼	- 1¼ (-13%)

The most gratifying trend was the continued growth in membership, notwithstanding the general strain on library finances. This trend may be an indication that librarians all over the world are deeply conscious of the absolute necessity of international professional cooperation and standardization and are becoming aware of the role the profession can play in uniting positive forces in the confused world of today.

In view of IFLA's tendency to expansion, the staff position gives rise for concern. The streamlining of the UBC programme - which after a decade of building up now looks fairly well stabilized - is responsible for the decrease of 1¼ staff positions. This in itself is no reason for anxiety, because the programme had progressed to the stage at which monitoring and maintenance by a staff of two would ensure that the objectives of the programme were being met. However, the staff at Headquarters has been maintained at the same level since 1978, although in both a quantitative and qualitative sense IFLA made considerable progress in those 7 years. Membership increase: 40%; Budgetary increase: 54%; five new core programmes, etc., etc... Moreover, the auditors have shown their concern by warning the Executive Board that one of the staff positions, the important one of Professional Coordinator, is filled at the moment at very little costs to IFLA. This is more or less due to accidental circumstances. When the present Professional Coordinator would leave IFLA, no claim on a comparable position can be laid: IFLA would have to assume full salary responsibility by that time. The same is true for the functioning of the programmes for UAP, UBC and Interlending. If the British Library would not provide staff time for management and liaison, these programmes could not be maintained at their present high-quality level.

The activities of the Programme Development Officer, a consultancy made possible for the years 1985-86 by a generous grant from the Council on Library Resources, may - as is the intention - provide a stable basis for the medium and long-term financing of the core programmes, but will undoubtedly also lead to supporting activities of Sections and Round Tables. All these programmes and projects will have to be coordinated, activated and financially managed by IFLA HQ when the consultancy of the Programme Development Officer is terminated at the end of 1986. The Executive Board will certainly seriously consider this precarious situation and search for a solution in the coming years - a solution for which timely provisions for salary and consultancy purposes seem essential.

1.2 *Complexity*

The complexity of IFLA is intrinsic to the complexity and variety of content and methods of librarianship and the responsibilities of librarians in the world of information. It may seem somewhat excessive that IFLA has 31 Sections, 10 Round Tables and 6 different core programmes. But all professional groups have their own environment and expertise, even if there are some overlapping interests. IFLA's Medium-Term Programme - that for 1986-1991 will be presented to the membership at the Council 1985 - serves as proof that all these groups have a valid reason for existence, and that the core programmes cut right through it all in addressing a number of global questions (see chapter 6).

Parallel to the expansion of programmes is the increase in input of experts in IFLA. All programmes need the intellectual backing of experts and in fact more than 400 persons are closely involved in IFLA work in this way. The membership shows an increasing interest in sectional activities. This is reflected in the number of registrations for the 31 Sections (nearly 3000).

It may, therefore, not be too surprising that to direct all these activities within IFLA there function three steering bodies: the Executive Board, the Professional Board, and the Programme Management Committee. International consultation is none too easy as it is slow and language problems tend to complicate the issues. Persons involved in international communication through IFLA all have full-time national responsibilities and can hardly spare the time and attention often essential for success. Three steering bodies which carefully divide their tasks can certainly achieve more than one overworked steering body. But complex? Yes, that is one of the side-effects of such a structure.

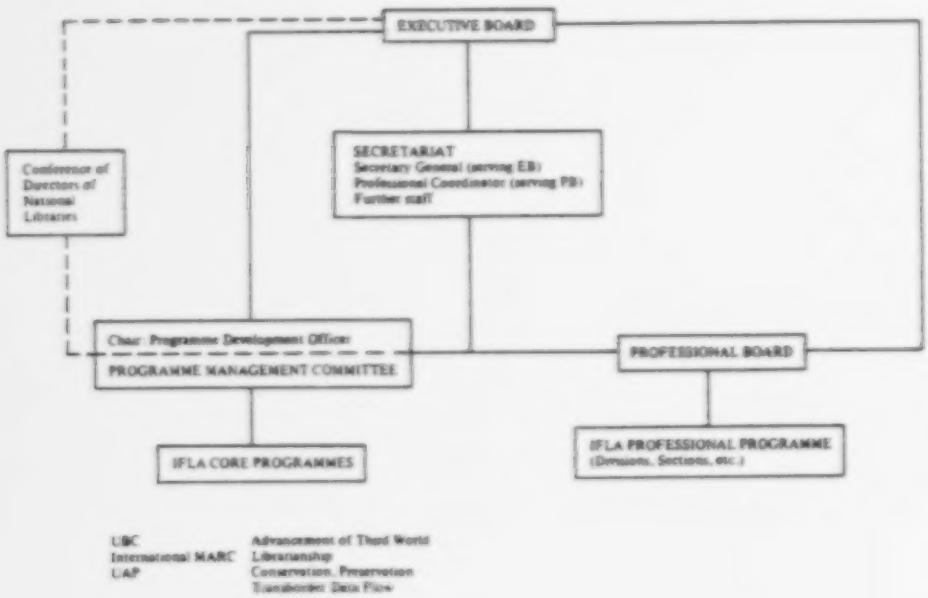
1.3 *IFLA structure*

A hallmark of the report period was the evaluation of the effectiveness of the present IFLA structure, particularly with regard to the execution of the various programmes.

The first step on the road to a re-assessment of IFLA's role and activities was taken by a Task Force on the IFLA Structure, convened by the President of IFLA and made possible by the hospitality offered by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. The Task Force, composed of 10 persons, met in Reisensburg, FRG, 18-21 April 1983. The following took part: H. Avram, M. Chauveinc, R. Gassol de Horowitz, H.-P. Geh, E. Granheim, W.R.H. Koops, P. Lewis, D. Oertel, G. Rückl, and G. Sylvestre, assisted by the IFLA Secretary General, Professional Coordinator, and a rapporteur.

The results of the meeting as amended by discussions in the steering bodies were presented by the President to the membership in a document called *IFLA Perspectives* in a mailing dated 12 December 1983. She wrote: "These *Perspectives* are no longer vague dreams, but will become a reality, thanks to the active support of the Council on Library Resources....Together with intensified effort in the areas of IFLA's interest, particularly the Divisional, Sectional and Round Table projects, it may be expected that IFLA has entered into a challenging new period of its development...". These challenges have been the basis of the six core programmes as defined by the Task Force, and in the professional programmes of the Divisions, Sections and Round Tables.

A summary of the structure was outlined as follows in the *Perspectives:*



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Because the appointment of a consulting Programme Development Officer - a prerequisite for success - was unfortunately delayed, this delayed in turn the planning and development of the core programmes. As of February 1985 Adam Wysocki has, however, taken up this challenging task for a number of 6-month consultancies. In the first period of his activities, emphasis will be laid on the core programme of Preservation and Conservation.

In order to achieve a smoother functioning of the professional work,a number of Working Groups were poring over such issues as:

- frequency and scope of IFLA General Conferences
- continuity in the professional work of IFLA
- aspects of IFLA membership
- IFLA's regional structure.

The Executive Board in a circular letter dated 23 November 1984 stated that the main outcome of these consultations was that the basic structure as adopted in 1976 was considered to have worked reasonably well, taking into account the complexity of international communication and cooperation. However, some adjustments were recommended, and will be voted upon by the Council 1985.

2. IFLA as the Global Voice of Librarianship

2.1 *Dreams and realities*

It has been stated emphatically throughout the last decade that there is a definite trend towards the expansion of librarianship to include "information in all of its fascinating aspects and alluring prospects" (see also *Trends 1981-82*, p. 4). The inevitable question that follows is whether IFLA can make true its claim to its function as the global voice of librarianship by providing firm leadership in addressing to the world at large major issues of vital concern to global librarianship. Is it no more than a dream that IFLA would be able to give such leadership or is the organization living up to expectations in the realization of this goal?

It would be presumptous to claim that IFLA has reached its goals, but not too presumptuous to state with a certain degree of caution that IFLA is well on its way. Seen from the quantitative angle, global coverage has been reached, but even if the contours of the broad picture of librarianship as represented by IFLA are becoming more and more clear, much has still to be achieved before the full picture emerges.

It is in any case correct to place on record that IFLA's position in the world of information has certainly not been weakened, and in fact is becoming stronger every day. The main concern is whether the supporting manpower can keep up the pace - staff as well as voluntary workers (officers, Standing Committee members, and members of Round Tables and Working Groups). Considerable economy in a national context and increasing costs of travel and accommodation are hampering the involvement of many potential co-workers in IFLA programmes: a drawback which must not be underestimated.

However, one must remain positive and look optimistically at progress to determine whether this trend can have a permanent nature.

The most positive tale is perhaps told by the quarterly *IFLA Journal*, which reflects IFLA's life and activities. Therefore, the "Editorials" of *IFLA Journal* are quoted here to show what this global voice of IFLA had to tell in 1983-1984.

1983: "In times of recession when the funding of libraries in most of the developed countries is severely cut, libraries must develop techniques to ensure that their more limited collections are developed to meet the needs of their users", said the Editorial Committee when introducing an issue on models for cooperation, including resource sharing, centralized services, and networking.

In a later issue that same year an article on the conservation of modern books was decribed as sketching "the entire scope of the problems which the imperfect permanent/durability of modern industrially produced papers presents to libraries".

The *Journal* also paid attention to "issues that have the potential to inhibit the flow of information".

From the Council and General Conference in Munich 1983 there emanated a number of issues of interest to the entire IFLA membership. The Editorial Committee stressed the importance of this conference "because IFLA as a corporate body, as opposed to its separate Sections, turned its attention to information technology and some of the possible consequences that these innovations were likely to make upon library services and the communities using them".

1984: In 1984 the *Journal* focused on the Advancement of Third World Librarianship (an IFLA core programme) which was especially highlighted because of the fact that the IFLA General Conference 1984 took place in Kenya. In a special African issue the Editorial Committee states that these articles "prove the point made by the Secretary General in a recent letter accompanying the IFLA core programmes that the skills and practices of librarianship, whether they be academic, public, special, government, etc. scarcely differ wherever they appear throughout the world. It is part of the unifying body of knowledge and expertise of the profession".

2.2 *Unesco and other international agencies*

Unesco

If the vital importance of Unesco in the furtherance of a general information programme would need factual proof, then this is convincingly provided by J. Stephen Parker in an article in *IFLA Journal* entitled, "Unesco Documents and Publications in the Field of Information: A Summary Guide" (*IFLA Journal* 10(3):251-272 (1984)). The documentary sources of information produced by Unesco and available to consultants in the library and information field are as numerous as useful, and truly represent an impressive flow of information. As the author states in his conclusion: "the guidelines, studies, manuals and other documents issued by Unesco provide a wealth of practical guidance on almost every aspect of information transfer".

IFLA could not function as it does today without Unesco, and - we may safely assume - the same is true for Unesco, which increasingly utilizes the expertise IFLA and its professional groups can provide. In the report period no less than 8 contracts were concluded between Unesco and IFLA in the areas of training, UAP, UBC, school libraries, national libraries, and libraries for the blind. For a detailed list, see the "IFLA Highlights", published in *IFLA Journal*, No. 2 of each year.

The structural problems within Unesco, which led to the withdrawal or the threat of imminent withdrawal from a number of Member States of Unesco, caused regret and concern in IFLA. The IFLA Executive Board issued a statement concerning the relationship with Unesco. This statement was published in *IFLA Journal* 10(3):303 (1984) and reads:
"IFLA's Executive Board, in its meeting of 5-6 April 1984, discussed the continuing working relationship it has with Unesco and the positive impact Unesco and its programmes have on IFLA's work for promoting library activities worldwide. Through this close cooperation the Federation's action radius has been greatly extended during recent years.
"IFLA is therefore concerned about the fact that some countries might withdraw from Unesco and that the professional and financial foundation of its activies will thereby be weakened. The withdrawal of these countries will consequently affect not only Unesco itself, but also inevitably the professional activities of other organizations now being supported by Unesco. The Executive Board of IFLA therefore expresses the hope that a solution may be found so that Unesco can continue to fulfill its important task in close cooperation with other international governmental and non-governmental organizations as well as with its Member States."

Other international bodies

With an eye on the necessary cooperation with other agencies working in the book field when developing the IFLA core programmes, it was to be applauded that the International Book Committee was re-established at a meeting at Unesco House in Paris on 18 May 1984. The Committee of which the IFLA Secretary General was made a member of an Executive Bureau of two, will serve to promote cooperation among publishers, authors, librarians, booksellers and others concerned with books and readers. As a priority for its first year, the Committee singled out the creation of a reading environment, one of the targets of the World Congress on Books, held in London in 1982.

In this context the joint statement of European publishers and librarians on the impact of Electronic Technology (published in *IFLA Journal* 10(4):418-421 (1984)) underlines the fact that librarianship cannot exist in isolation and has to look beyond its boundaries if it wishes to keep abreast of developments.

The new information technologies were also highlighted in a most important meeting held in Luxembourg, 19-23 November 1984: The Impact of New Information Technologies on Library Management, Resources and Cooperation. In attendance were 100 high-level North American and European representatives from all interested disciplines and organizations. Of the recommendations, one of the most interesting for IFLA purposes reads:"In order to activate and support the cooperation of research libraries in Europe, a European Council of Research Libraries should be established as an independent non-governmental body seeking cooperation with and support from intergovernmental organizations and private foundations". A steering committee has been established to provide a detailed plan of operation by 31 May 1985. IFLA will, hopefully, be ready to accept any challenge (in the form of contracts?) emanating from this innovative initiative, a brainchild of Herman Liebaers, Honorary President of IFLA.

A meeting of Presidents and Secretaries General of FID, ICA and IFLA held in London on 19 September 1983 served to evaluate progress made since the Bellagio Meeting in 1980. A further meeting at the level of Presidents and Secretaries General is planned for June 1985. The main progress in cooperation can be reported in the fields of education and training and in the use of audiovisual media.

It is impossible to record here all meetings of related organizations in which IFLA actively participated in 1983/84. A detailed survey may be found in the reports, "IFLA Highlights" which the Secretary General publishes each year in *IFLA Journal*. But if one realizes that IFLA was represented at no less than 49 meetings/working groups, etc. of other organizations in this period, it must be clear that the maintenance of working relationships with similar organizations is no small matter and gives rise to concern because of the limitations of time and money. And what would be the use of "being there" if no manpower would be available to react effectively on recommendations relevant to IFLA's purposes? A question of more than rhetorical bearing....

3. IFLA Publications

A full listing of all IFLA publications appeared in *IFLA Journal*, first when the publication was announced, and then in the survey of publications listed in "IFLA Highlights", in the No. 2 issue each year.

In addition to the publications issued under the auspices of the core programmes (see chapter 6), nine new titles were published in the series, IFLA Publications. These covered a wide range of IFLA interests, including library interior layout and design, planning the administrative library, copyright of bibliographic records in machine-readable form, and library work for children and young adults in developing countries.

For the first time IFLA Members were offered the opportunity to sign up for an automatic processing of a subscription to the series. This meant that in addition to the normal IFLA Member's discount, they would receive an extra discount, resulting in a savings of 50% over the normal purchase price of books in the series. Almost half of the membership took advantage of this opportunity.

During the report period another IFLA series was begun. The series, IFLA Professional Reports, published by IFLA Headquarters under the auspices of the Professional Board, now has four titles to its credit. That its objective - to ensure that the results of IFLA professional projects reached the wider audience for which they were intended - was being reached can best be measured by the sales of the first title: *Books for the Mentally Handicapped: A Guide to Selection*. Just over 300 copies of the title had been sold at the time of this report.

More than one half of the professional groups issued newsletters free of charge to members registered for their Sections. This very precise way of keeping their members informed was often the result of financial support from the institution employing the officer.

The development of the UBC programme was reported on regularly through the quarterly journal, *International Cataloguing*, and both the UAP programme and the International MARC programme began newsletters, the *UAP Newsletter* and the *IMP Newsletter*, the former beginning a Spanish edition with its No. 4 issue. Both newsletters were designed to keep people informed of the developments within the programmes and of national initiatives undertaken within the field.

4. IFLA and the Third World

It has only been since the early '70s that IFLA's Third World programme was becoming more than a script in the sky. Today it is a serious core programme of IFLA and the profession in the Third World has become an active component of the IFLA structure.

Outstanding of course was the performance of the Kenyan colleagues who succeeded in preparing and organizing the first-ever IFLA General Conference in Africa in August 1984. The Conference was well attended and from a professional point of view was as rewarding an experience as becoming acquainted with African culture. *IFLA Annual* will reflect the lasting impact of this Conference.

Consultations starting in Nairobi resulted in a policy meeting of the chairs of the regional Sections in The Hague in September 1984. This ultimately led to a document, "25 Essential Points on the Improvement of IFLA's Regional Activities", meant to facilitate and stimulate the involvement of Third World librarianship in all facets of IFLA activities. The ideas formulated in this document were translated into a number of structural changes by the Executive Board. These proposals will be voted upon by the Council in 1985.

During the report period were published the final results of the projects at the grassroots level, sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in 1982/83. These projects were:

- Home Libraries in Zimbabwe (Ellen Waungana)
- Développement de la lecture au Sénégal (Raphael Ndiaye)
- Library and Information Systems in Southern Africa (Sam Kotei)
- School Libraries for Blind Children in Sierra Leone (Gloria Dillsworth)
- Directory of Experienced Library and Information Personnel in Asia and Oceania (Ke Hong Park)

Without being exhaustive in describing the projects, it nevertheless may be illustrative to provide a few details about one of the projects. The project report about Home Libraries in Zimbabwe was submitted to IFLA and CIDA in 1984. The project, started by Ellen Waungana on a voluntary basis, quickly took off the ground when funds became available. Three home libraries were created immediately. These home libraries are small centres where children learn to associate their spoken home language with books and reading. Ms Waungana gave each centre a year's supervision, and promoted the initiative through radio, television and press. As a result, requests for home libraries came streaming in. To meet the demands, the training of group leaders became necessary and a

training seminar was organized. The project is now spreading to many parts of Zimbabwe. And all of this happened because CIDA gave a seeding grant through IFLA of Can$ 10,000 in 1982/83. A seemingly small injection can have splendid effects in librarianship!

CIDA has been instrumental in getting the IFLA programme for the Third World underway since 1971. It is not immoderate to state that without CIDA IFLA's Third World programme today would only be an insipid efficy, compared with the lively picture that has been emerging, thanks to CIDA, IDRC, DSE, Unesco and other national and international sponsors.

It is therefore all the more regrettable that CIDA has evidently lost its interest in the type of grassroots projects which have been encouraging librarianship in the regions so much in the last decade. IFLA will have to re-think its core programme of Advancement of Third World Librarianship in order to recapture the indispensable support from CIDA and others. A promising example of a new approach is the action proposed by the Nordic countries leading to a project to elaborate an assistance programme to improve the availability of publications in developing countries. Its main objective will be the provision of S&T literature through periodicals.

The so-called pre-session seminars - training seminars for Third World librarians - were continued in the report period.

Munich 1983. Theme: "University Libraries in Developing Countries"
Nairobi 1984. Theme: "Education and Training for Library Service at the Grassroots Level"

The seminars were made possible through the support of Unesco, the Deutsche Stifting für Internationale Entwicklung, the French Government, and the authorities of the host countries.

Not to be ignored is the support which is given by way of sponsorship of IFLA dues to 26 Members of IFLA in the Third World. The sponsors are IFLA Members in the Nordic countries, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom...a fine example of solidarity which is more than lip service alone.

The Martinus Nijhoff Study Grant was awarded to: Ms G. A. Gasperini (Uruguay), Ms Z. Guéhiss (Tunisia) and N. U. Yapa (Sri Lanka). The Grant enabled them to study subjects of their choice in Western Europe.

IFLA and the Third World - still a relationship in its early stages of development, but nevertheless promising. The spirit in which IFLA is tackling the immense problems in this field is best expressed by IFLA's President who closed the Nairobi Conference with the words, "Where there is a will, there is a way". IFLA will find that way because the determination is unflagging, notwithstanding some disappointment when canvassing for input for the Regional Development Fund. But there are also successes (see above) and these might inspire others to join hands. May the next *Trends 1985-86* be able to report further progress, sustained by an even broader forum of (inter)national agencies.

5. IFLA and Some of its Ardent Supporters

The closing words of chapter 4 logically lead to this chapter, which aims at preventing that those who provide the necessary fuel on which the IFLA machinery functions would hide their light under a bushel of modesty.

In the report period IFLA received funding in money and goods from:

- Unesco: general subvention for association activities and contracts
- Council on Library Resources: support for the planning and development of the core programmes, in particular UAP, UBC, International MARC, Transborder Data Flow,and Preservation and Conservation; follow-up on the MINISIS study;
- Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft: hosting of policy meeting in Reisensburg; UAP programme projects;
- CIDA, DSE: support for various facets of the core programme of Advancement of Third World Librarianship;
- National libraries: support for the programmes of UAP, UBC and International MARC; MINISIS feasibility study;
- British Library: managerial and other support for UAP and UBC;
- Deutsche Bibliothek: support for International MARC;
- Dutch Ministry of Education: support for IFLA HQ activities;
- Members in the Netherlands, Nordic countries and United Kingdom: sponsorship of IFLA Member dues of Third World library associations and libraries;
- Members in the socialist countries: contributions in kind to the UAP and UBC programmes; hosting of Standing Committee meetings;
- Publishing firm of Martinus Nijhoff: annual study grant;
- The host countries/cities of the IFLA General Conferences;

and all others not mentioned here specifically, but in the text of various chapters of this report.

Finally, the spotlight may this time be illuminating the officers of IFLA and the institutions to which they belong. If the officers would not be giving so much of their time, energy and expertise to international library cooperation within IFLA, and their institutions would not be so lenient and supportive of their IFLA activities, IFLA would be out of control and liable to be shipwrecked. But as long as the officers continue to function in such a dedicated and determined manner, IFLA may trust that its course is set and held steadfast.

6. IFLA and its Core Programmes

IFLA has developed six core programmes, guided by the Programme Management Committee in close cooperation with the Professional Board. Three of the core programmes are already operational: Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC), Universal Availability of Publications (UAP) and International MARC (IMP), while the programme for Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World has slowly been developed in the last decade (see Chapter 4). Two newly established programmes: Preservation and Conservation (PAC) and Transborder Data Flow (TDF) were not yet operational during the report period.

6.1 *UBC*

In 1983/84 the UBC programme was oriented towards *national* bibliographic control with the production of national bibliographies and towards *international* action linked with the development and maintenance of the necessary tools and bibliographic standards.

The national effort of UBC has focused on two programme areas:

- ensuring that bibliographic records are prepared according to internationally accepted standards
- creating and/or improving the administrative machinery for national bibliographic control.

The internationally oriented action of the UBC programme has been to a great extent accomplished in the past, and therefore its current effort has centred on maintenance and updating of existing bibliographic tools.

The main projects undertaken in 1983/84 were as follows:

- ISBD(S)ISDS compatibility. A report analyzing the differences between ISBD(S) and ISDS with proposals for amendments has been completed and published in *International Cataloguing*.
- The *Manual on Bibliographic Control* was prepared by the Director of the programme and published by Unesco
- An amendment sheet for the forms of names of religious bodies was compiled, printed, and inserted in *Form and Structure of Corporate Headings*. The text of the amendment sheet was also printed in *International Cataloguing* 12(1):2(1983).
- The final version of *Guidelines for Authority and Reference Entries* was edited and sent for publication.

Several projects were underway, especially those ensuing from the International Cataloguing-in-Publication Meeting in Ottawa, August 1982 (e.g. the preparation of a standardized format for the CIP entry in the book, and guidelines for CIP operation) and projects linked with the ISBD five-year review.

6.2 *UAP*

The UAP programme was developed by action in the three main components of the programme.

- Publicity. This was achieved through published articles and leaflets, the introduction of a *UAP Newsletter*, books on UAP, and lectures and papers at meetings. Among the UAP publications, the following could be cited: *Universal Availability of Publications; Improving the Availability of Publications: A Comparative Assessment of Model National Systems.*

  Several national and international meetings and seminars on UAP took place in 1983/84 and served as forums for discussing problems and identifying objectives and methods for universal availability of publications. As examples could be mentioned two regional meetings: A Training Seminar for Librarians in African Countries, held in Nairobi, 26-28 August 1984; and a Regional Meeting of Latin American national and university librarians, held in Santiago, Chile in June 1984.

- Research. This activity has been conducted in five main areas of availability: the availability of publications, document supply, interlending, acquisition and retention. Several reports have been issued as results of conducted research, including, *Commercial Book Supply. The Availability of Books through Commercial Channels with Particular Reference to Developing Countries; The Impact of New Technology on the Availability of Publications;* and *International Lending: Principles and Guidelines for Procedures.*

- Guidelines and advice to others. The UAP Programme Officer provided assistance and advice at the technical and political levels for the operation of national systems and for the availability and supply of documents. To this end, guidelines and manuals have been issued: *Guidelines for National Planning for the Availability of Publications* and *A Brief Guide to Centres of International Lending and Photocopying.*

6.3 *IMP*

The International MARC programme, established officially in 1983, consists of two main project components. The first, located in the Deutsche Bibliothek in Frankfurt am Main, is concerned mainly with International MARC applications, including technical feasibility studies and UNIMARC testing. The second, housed at the British Library in London, is primarily responsible for the continuous maintenance, revision and development of the UNIMARC format on the basis of the *UNIMARC Handbook*, on feasibility studies for the most effective methods of international transfer of bibliographic data, and on the preparation of the third edition of the UNIMARC format.

In 1984 the IMP prepared and published the *International Guide to MARC Databases and Services: National Magnetic Tape Services* and started the regular publication of the *IMP Newsletter*, which informs the library community on new developments, activities and projects undertaken or coordinated by the responsible bodies associated with the International MARC programme.

The three new core programmes were approved by the Executive Board in 1984 and officially presented to the library community at the Open Forum of the Programme Management Committee during the 50th IFLA General Conference in Nairobi.

6.4 *PAC*

The Preservation and Conservation core programme was established with the aim of promoting the search for solutions to the serious problems of physical deterioration of library and information materials, thus helping to preserve and conserve publications of the past, present and future. It has two objectives:

- to ensure that domestic publications, including non-print materials, will be preserved permanently at the national level for consultation or loan;
- to develop methods of preservation in formats other than the original, and of the application of modern technology for this purpose.

The action envisaged is oriented towards coordination and policy matters, studies and research, raising awareness, training and education, and pilot projects.

6.5 *TDF*

The Transborder Data Flow programme deals with the promotion of the electronic transfer of data among libraries across national borders, thus ensuring that the vital interest of the library community in resource sharing is preserved.

It is restricted to data publicly available, with or without charge, and encompasses both reference and source databases.

The TDF programme covers issues linked with policy, economy, and technology, paying special attention to the first two issues.

The programme action is concentrated mainly on topics which are of primary importance to, and affect directly, the library community. This includes: formulation of policies and guidelines, raising awareness of the subject, improvement of access to computerized databases, and cooperation with others involved in TDF.

7. IFLA and its Professional Grassroots

IFLA - to a great extent - draws its intellectual resources from individuals who combine a professional interest in library developments in their specific field with a keen feeling for the necessity of international library cooperation. Not seldom must such individuals perform their IFLA work in their spare time and from their private funds, while cooperating in the various Sections and Round Tables. To quote a school library consultant, applying for a seat on the Standing Committee of the Section for School Libraries: "My philosophy regarding libraries and international relations has been shaped by my broad participation in IFLA....Many problems facing school libraries are shared by countries worldwide. Through our combined efforts, we can seek viable solutions".

IFLA's Medium-Term Programmes give an insight into the goals of the 31 Sections and 10 Round Tables, which operate with an annual subvention from IFLA general funds of approximately Dfl 120,000-130,000, not including contract money for selected projects. Their achievements are described in the *IFLA Annuals* , while an account of five years of IFLA work, 1980-1984, compiled by P. J. van Swigchem, will appear in 1985 in time for presentation to the IFLA Council. The title will be: *IFLA and the Library World*, an appropriate variation on the title of IFLA's first long-term programme, *Libraries in the World*, published in 1963. Much has happened since the early sixties, and today the library world cannot be visualized without IFLA. In a Council report such as this one, one cannot hope to cover the varicoloured faits et gestes from the professional groups in 1983 and 1984. They were concerned with the advances of technology, with emerging library associations, with user research and education, with the education and training of librarians, with library materials, their control and availability, with the management of libraries, their building and equipment, etc., etc.

Because this chapter started by quoting from a school librarian, it may be justified to record the work of this one Section as an example of the significance of the grassroots of IFLA for specialized development of the global profession. This is - as was said - one example only, and it could be multiplied 40 times over if justice would be done to all groups.

Section of School Libraries

In the report period the Section concentrated on:

(1) the education and training of school librarians. A Working Group has nearly completed its work. Data has been collected from colleagues throughout the world and three main roles have been identified for which education and training needs may be specified: managerial, instructional and librarianship.

(2) guidelines for the instruction of teachers. The production of *Guidelines for the Instruction of Teachers in Training on the Educational/Curricular Uses of School Libraries* is underway and will be completed in 1985.

(3) copyright and school libraries. Details of the problems faced by librarians, with examples of possible remedies drawn from existing legislature are being collected.

At the General Conferences in 1983 (Munich) and 1984 (Nairobi) the following papers were presented to interested and well-attended audiences (titles only, with apologies to the authors):

- Microcomputers and reading training: how children learn to read in their mother tongue - the Senegalese experience
- New environment of learning -- school library media centres
- Information technology for schoolchildren
- The education and training of school librarians : an international study
- School libraries in perspective
- UAP and school libraries

This list is interesting because it proves (in this case as well as in the case of the other groups not discussed) that the work at the so-called grassroots level is very much interwoven and that UAP and information technology are as vital for school libraries as for university libraries. One has to hold this picture clearly in mind when evaluating the important work of the IFLA Professional Board. It has the complicated task of coordinating and guiding the activities of the Divisions, Sections and Round Tables of IFLA.

8. IFLA and Its General Conferences

(see the *IFLA Annuals* for the full reports)

IFLA Conferences - a microcosm of the information world, with participants from all branches of the profession, and with representatives from related organizations such as FID, ICA, ISO, IRA, IRAE and Unesco in attendance - cannot be judged from statistics alone, because the statistics:

Munich, 21-27 August 1983: Theme, "Libraries in a Technological World"; 263 meetings; 189 papers, 125 translations; 1300 participants from 75 countries

Nairobi, 18-24 August 1984: Theme, "The Basis of Library and Information Services for National Development"; 212 meetings; 143 papers, 84 translations; 1000 participants from 70 countries

do not really tell the whole story of an IFLA Conference.

That the IFLA Conferences had a national impact was obvious from the extensive coverage given by the media in Munich and Nairobi, and that the IFLA Conferences are felt to be of great professional value can be measured by the participation figures. One must realize that IFLA, unlike other organizations, cannot pay its speakers at General Conferences, and many speakers travelled to the conferences at their own expense. The translations available were the work of dedicated IFLA officers, who spent part of their summer holidays on this not too easy task. IFLA recognizes the worth of its conference papers, and to ensure that they receive worldwide recognition, distributes copies of all papers to its 17 Clearinghouses, including three in the regional offices in Senegal, Venezuela, and Malaysia and promotes their distribution through the ERIC Clearinghouse system. Bibliographic control of IFLA's conference papers can now be realized with the issue of a new publication, the *Bibliography of IFLA Conference Papers and Other Documents.* The publication, which began in 1983 with a listing of all Munich Conference documents, will be compiled each year, following guidelines established by a Working Group from the Sections on Bibliography, Cataloguing, and Classification. The new Bibliography offers proof of the outstanding diversity of information available to library professionals who use IFLA as a forum for a free exchange of experience. Another way of ascertaining the value of the conference papers is to note that at least 50% of all papers have been published, either in an IFLA publication - *IFLA Journal*; *International Cataloguing*; the series, IFLA Publications; the series, IFLA Professional Reports; INSPEL - or in other professional journals.

However, it is not paperwork alone which makes a conference worthwhile. There are indeed some - if not many - for whom the knitting of personal ties with colleagues facing the same professional challenges represents the most valuable asset of any IFLA Conference.

9. IFLA and Its Finances

Detailed information on the financial situation of IFLA in the past period may be found in the Treasurer's and auditor's reports. The Treasurer's report is to be found in *IFLA Journal*, No. 2 of each year, while the auditor's reports may be viewed at IFLA Headquarters or during the General Conferences at the IFLA Secretariat.

A graphic representation to provide a clear picture of the way in which IFLA finances its services to the Members follows.

The main trend of the policy of the steering bodies is to keep staff expenses to the absolute minimum in favour of the maximum support of programmes and projects.

Members contribute no less than 58.6% of IFLA's income, and this increase year by year is most encouraging. Of these contributions, 11.2% is earmarked for the core programmes as managed by the Programme Management Committee.

The support received from Unesco is also considerable: 19.2% of IFLA's total resources in 1984. Although this is a reason for rejoicing, it is also a matter of concern seen in the light of a probable curtailing of the Unesco budget (see section 2.2). Without Unesco support IFLA would have to abandon a number of essential services.

Further project grants (6.0%) came from the Council on Library Resources, national libraries (MINISIS). the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and others.

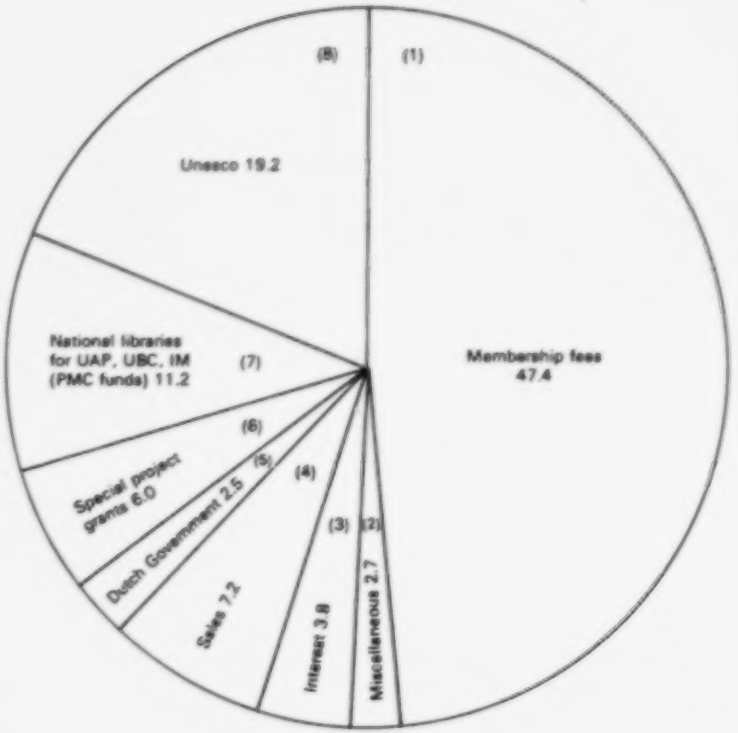
However gratifying the readiness to support IFLA as demonstrated by outside agencies may be, it is clear that the complicated financial management of IFLA requires a remarkable ingenuity from the steering bodies in order to let not only ends meet, but to effectively give momentum to the reason for IFLA's existence: the furthering of the library profession and of its services to the users.

IFLA ASSOCIATION SERVICES

ACCOUNTS 1984

INCOME
Dfl. 1,386,977

in percentages



(1)	Membership fees		657,518
	Association Members	309,756	
	Institutional Members	308,130	
	Personal Affiliates	20,204	
	Registration for Sections	44,094	
	Sponsorships	4,796	
	(to be deducted dubious dues	29,462)	
(2)	Miscellaneous		37,091
	Share Conference registration fees	14,915	
	Other	22,176	
(3)	Interest		52,471
(4)	Sales/Royalties		100,329
(5)	Dutch Government		35,200
(6)	Project grants		82,637
	Council on Library Resources	31,866	
	CIDA and France for Third World	23,289	
	Nat.Libr. for MINISIS	19,401	
	Nijhoff Study Grant	8,081	
(7)	Nat. Libraries for UBC/UAP/IM		155,732
(8)	Unesco		265,999
	General grant HQ	149,651	
	UAP Seminar	53,410	
	Various contracts	62,938	

- 18 -

EXPENDITURE
Dfl. 1,248,959

in percentages

(1) Staff costs		530,706
Secretary General and staff	276,092	
Professional coordination	59,748	
UBC programme	105,155	
UAP programme	67,617	
Travel	22,094	
(2) Steering bodies		37,769
(3) Administrative management		118,822
Premises	1,764	
Audit, Adm. system	26,500	
HQ supplies, duplication,etc.	27,780	
HQ postage, telephone, telex	37,479	
UBC various	9,884	
Other/miscellaneous/taxes	15,415	
(4) Publications		171,957
Free publications for Members (Annual, Journal,Directory)	144,116	
Other (incl. UBC)	27,841	
(5) Conferences		40,087
(6) Divisions, Sections, RT		112,578
Divisions	1,296	
Sections	104,872	
Round Tables	6,410	
(7) Regional Activities		116,457
UAP Seminar Nairobi	53,410	
CIDA projects	14,974	
Translations	9,919	
Other projects and Regional Offices	38,154	
(8) Research projects		120,583
CLR (mainly core programmes)	31,866	
UAP	5,377	
Unesco contracts	58,820	
MINISIS	19,401	

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10. Summary and Presentation to the Council 1985

The years 1983-1984 were important to IFLA because of various professional happenings, first and foremost the presentation of the six core programmes of IFLA as a result of a Task Force meeting in Reisensburg, FRG in April 1983 in a document called *IFLA Perspectives*. IFLA's President wrote at that time: "These *Perspectives* are no longer vague dreams but will become a reality...Together with intensified efforts in the areas of IFLA's interest, particularly the Divisional, Sectional and Round Table projects, it may be expected that IFLA has entered into a challenging new period of its development."

The General Conferences held in Munich (1983) and Nairobi (1984) were already reflecting the interwoven planning of horizontal and vertical professional interests by the core programmes(UBC, UAP, IM, PAC, TDF, ALP and what these abbreviations stand for may be found in chapters 4 and 6 of this report) and the programmes at the Sectional and Round Table level (grassroots).

A gratifying quantitative trend was the continued growth in membership, notwithstanding the general strain on library finances. IFLA grew in 1983/84 by 7.3% to 1182 Members in 121 countries. Parallel to the increase in numbers, a growing structural complexity complicates the management of IFLA. A number of Working Groups studied this problem in 1983/84 (cf. 1.2 and 1.3).

The working relationships with Unesco and other international bodies were strengthened, including the creation of a restructured International Book Committee (May 1984) in which librarians, publishers, booksellers and authors cooperate. Meetings of the Presidents and Secretaries General of IFLA, FID and ICA have become regular productive occurrences.

The Executive Board of IFLA in April 1984 issued a statement expressing IFLA's concern about the possible withdrawal from Unesco of a number of countries (see *IFLA Journal* 10(3):303 (1984)).

The new information technologies were highlighted in a meeting held in Luxembourg, 19-23 November 1984: The Impact of New Information Technologies on Library Management, Resources and Cooperation. This meeting may lead to a European Council of Research Libraries.

IFLA participated in this meeting and 48 other meetings of related organizations: an effect of the role of IFLA as the global voice of librarianship. And the latter is what these "Trends" are, in essence, about: IFLA and the World, impossible to summarize, exciting to read in full.

11. Résumé et présentation au Conseil 1985 (Sommaire en français)

Les années 1983-1984 ont été très importantes pour l'IFLA en raison de différents événements professionnels, et, d'abord et avant tout, à la suite des travaux du groupe d'experts réuni à Reisensburg,RFA, en avril 1983, la présentation des six programmes fondamentaux de l'IFLA dans un document intitulé *Perspectives de l'IFLA*. La Présidente de l'IFLA a écrit à cette occasion: "Ces perspectives ne sont plus de vagues rêveries, elles deviendront une réalité ....". Avec des efforts intensifiés dans les domaines intéressant l'IFLA, spécialement en ce qui concerne les projets des divisions, sections et tables rondes, on peut s'attendre à ce que la Fédération lance un nouveau défi pour son développement.

Les conférences générales tenues à Munich (1983) et Nairobi ont déjà reflété la planification croisée des intérêts professionnels tant horizontaux que verticaux, à travers les programmes fondamentaux (UBC, UAP, MI, PAC, TDF, ALP et la signification de ces abréviations, sont exposés dans les chapitres 4 et 6 de ce rapport), et les programmes des sections et tables rondes (au niveau élémentaire).

Une tendance des plus satisfaisantes a été l'accroissement continu des membres, malgré les restrictions financières que connaissent généralement les bibliothèques. Le pourcentage d'augmentation a été de 7,3 % en 1983/84, portant le nombre des membres à 1182 répartis dans 121 pays. Parallèlement à l'augmentation numérique, une complexité structurelle croissante a rendu plus difficile la gestion de l'IFLA. Plusieurs groupes de travail ont étudié ce problème en 1983/84 (cf. 1.2 et 1.3).

Les rapports de travail avec l'Unesco et les autres organismes internationaux ont été ressérés; à noter la création d'un Comité international du livre, restructuré (mai 1984) dans lequel bibliothécaires, éditeurs, libraires et auteurs coopérent. Les réunions des présidents et secrétaires généraux de l'IFLA, de la FID, et du CIA sont devenues régulières et fructueuses.

Le Bureau exécutif de l'IFLA réuni en avril 1984 a publié une déclaration exprimant l'inquiétude de l'IFLA sur le retrait possible de certains pays de l'Unesco (voir *l'IFLA Journal* 10 (3), 303 (1984).

Les nouvelles technologies de l'information ont été mises en vedette dans un colloque réuni à Luxembourg les 19-23 novembre 1984, sur le thème: "l'Impact des nouvelles technologies de l'information sur la gestion, les ressources et la coopération des bibliothèques". Cette réunion peut aboutir à la création d'un Conseil européen des bibliothèques de recherche.

L'IFLA a participé à cette réunion et à 48 autres d'organismes avec qui elle entretient des rapports: c'est une conséquence du rôle de l'IFLA comme porte-parole universel des bibliothèques. Et la dernière conséquence est reflétée par ces "Tendances": en substance, l'IFLA et le monde, impossible à résumer, excitant à lire en entier.

IFLA COUNCIL MEETING, CHICAGO

1985

107-COUNCIL-2-1

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE IFLA ACCOUNTS 1983 AND 1984, AND THE BUDGETARY GUIDELINES FOR 1985 AND 1986

by

Marie-Louise BOSSUAT

TREASURER OF IFLA
BIBLIOTHEQUE NATIONALE
PARIS, FRANCE

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Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer of IFLA, Mlle M.-L. Bossuat, herewith presents to the IFLA Council, to be held in Chicago, 18 August 1985 her general comments on the IFLA accounts 1983 and 1984, and the budgetary guidelines for 1985 and 1986 (original: French).

1. Introduction

This report concerns the accounts 1983 and 1984 of IFLA, including the professional programmes of UAP (Universal Availability of Publications) and UBC (Universal Bibliographic Control). It also gives a survey of the budget for 1985 and following years.

The auditor's reports for 1983 and 1984 will be available for review of members at the IFLA Secretariat (Palmer House, Third Floor, room 9) during the IFLA Conference.

The Executive Board of IFLA approved the budget-1985 in October 1984. It was not easy to have it balanced because of the uncertainty of some sources of income. As in former years it was necessary to prepare an emergency budget: we are well aware that many Members, Associations as well as Institutions, struggle with financial problems. But notwithstanding the uncertainties on the income side it is essential that the professional groups of IFLA receive the funds which enable them to realize their projects, because the professional output is the reason for IFLA's existence.

2. The accounts 1983 and 1984 in Dutch guilders

The accounts for these two years cover the central secretariat (IFLA Headquarters) and the IFLA programmes for UBC (London) and UAP (Boston Spa). The latter two programmes are managed by the Programme Management Committee (PMC).

Although the figures may provide some boring reading, it must be kept in mind that they reflect the activities of IFLA.

2.1 1983

The income of IFLA increased to Dfl. 1,223,000 and the expenses to Dfl. 1,288,000. This slight overexpenditure was not dramatic, but it nevertheless was recognized as a warning bell. It is, therefore,

important to know the reasons, because the accounts of Headquarters were positive: income 1,003,000, expenditure 967,000 thus indicating that the deficit concerns the UBC and UAP programmes.

The increase in income can be explained by:

(1) an increase of the total amount of dues, which was realized by an efficient reminder system by the Secretariat (note that the contribution as such was not raised in 1983)

(2) an increase in income from publications.

On the other hand it is a fact that the grants for special activities and the Unesco contract money for new projects were less than in 1982. The Central Secretariat has applied a succesful policy of strict economy in 1983, in particular with regard to general expenditure and travel costs.

The accounts of the UBC programme (noticeable decrease in income from publications) and UAP (increase in salary costs and programme costs) could not be balanced. To compensate the negative difference between income and expenditure (a total of 97,810), the PMC had much to its regret to draw on its reserves. The Executive Board has warned the managing directors of both programmes that economizing would be necessary.

2.2 1984

The income was considerably higher than the expenditure in 1984: Dfl. 1,387,000 income against 1,248,000 expenditure, a positive balance of Dfl. 139,000 (appr. $ 40,000). Although this is a reason for satisfaction, it might have been possible - if this outcome had been clear at an earlier stage - to spend more on projects.

However, the results were not easy to predict. IFLA receives part of the various grants in US dollars, in particular those coming from Unesco. The favourable exchange rate raised the Unesco subvention from Dfl. 128,500 (as foreseen in the budget) to Dfl. 149,650. Another reason can be found in the income from membership fees.

For 1984 a sum equal to the realized amount-1983 was budgeted, because the financial problems of most libraries urged caution. In reality, however, the membership increased by 4.4 %. The extra income from dues served as an advance for the late receipt of dues in 1985.

The contributions as received by the Programme Management Committee for the core programmes of IFLA were increased by Dfl. 43,749, mainly

because of the implementation of the new core programme of International MARC. The same positive situation existed with regard to the IFLA/Unesco contracts.

Another positive item on the income side was the interest.

Moreover, one has to take into regard that the grant received from the Council on Library Resources to enable IFLA to draw on the services of a Programme Development Officer in charge of the core programmes of IFLA, although partly received in 1984, could not be fully spent, because the PDO assumed his tasks later than expected.

Finally, the sales of publications showed a positive trend which is a good omen because it ensures the dissemination of the work of IFLA.

This idyllic picture must be completed by noting that the programme for UBC after some difficult years seems to be stabilized, but that the programme for UAP must still reach a state of equilibrium.

Let us now turn to the expenditure for 1984: it must be recorded that section projects as funded by Unesco and CIDA received fewer allocations than in former years.

The publication budget of Headquarters was higher than expected because of the earlier mentioned increase in membership. This brings about a proportional increase in the costs of free publications for Members. Although it sounds paradoxical: increase in membership always means overexpenditure (in this case Dfl. 15,000). However, the UBC Programme published less than expected.*) It must be noted that the expenditure at Headquarters with regard to postal and telephone charges was very reasonable.

One cannot leave the accounts 1983 and 1984 without touching upon the salary costs, those were - as foreseen - higher in 1984 than in 1983, but within permissible limits. We must call to mind that only 20 % of the salary of the Professional Coordinator was paid by IFLA in 1984. This will be 30 % in 1985.

Definite problems may arise in 1986 when the Programme Development Officer will have terminated his contract, and in 1987 when a new Secretary General will take up his position.

*) Note: the programme concentrated upon the finalization of the ISBD five year review. This activity will ensure that several new publications will be available in the next biennium.

There is a risk that the Federation will then be confronted by new problems. IFLA at that time will have started a number of new core programmes (Transborder Data Flow, Preservation and Conservation, Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World), which will have to be developed and maintained.
Moreover, one can only wish that the activities of Divisions and Sections will steadily increase.
These observations lead us to the examiniation of the future budgets.

3. Budgetary Guidelines for 1985 and 1986

The general budget for 1985, including those for UBC and UAP, has been approved by the Executive Board on the basis of figures provided by the Secretary General.
The income was estimated on an increasing income of Dfl. 1,526,380 - and an expenditure of Dfl. 1,521,980. In order to prepare a balanced budget, the Executive Board had to reduce certain budget items by 4 - 5 %.
This calls for some marginal notes.
It is still unknown what exactly will be the Unesco subvention for the central secretariat. It might be feasible that the precarious situation of Unesco would lead to heavy cuts in subventions, which would endanger the IFLA budget very much.
Let us hope that the national libraries, which have been most generous up to now - a proof of their interest in the core programmes of IFLA - will not be compelled to economize. If this would be the case, the core programmes would meet with extreme difficulties. It is also essential to find new sources of funding for the development of Third World programmes.
What will be the outlook of the budget-1986 and further years? It is really problematic to predict. One thing is certain: namely that the professional activities of IFLA must meet the demands of its 1182 Member-Associations and Institutions. But how can the Federation meet those demands without new sources of income? Let us hope that this question finds a positive answer in the near future.
This report cannot be terminated without thanking all organizations and institutions which did contribute to the 1983/84 activities of IFLA in general, and to the core programmes in particular: the Council on Library Resources, the Royal Library at The Hague, the British Library at London, the Deutsche Bibliothek at Frankfurt, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft,

the Deutsche Stiftung für internationale Entwicklung, the Dutch Ministry of Education, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and numerous national libraries.

The complete list of sponsoring bodies would be too long, but they all deserve our gratitude.

Survey of the IFLA Accounts 1984

A. Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1984

	IFLA Headquarters Dfls	UBC London Dfls	UAP Boston Spa Dfls	Total Dfls
Current Assets:				
Cash in hand	538	119	-	657
Bank accounts	869,978	68,948	30,888	969,814
Securities	35,000	-	-	35,000
Receivables	85,886	17,296[1]	8,067	106,026[2]
Stock of publications	-	58,484	-	58,484
	991,402	144,847	38,955	1,169,981
Current Liabilities:				
Received in advance	88,642	-	-	88,642
Creditors and other liabilities	350,149	7,729	48,373	401,028[2]
Provisions	15,000	-	-	15,000
PMC funds	170,295	137,118	(9,418)	297,995
Regional Library Development Fund	31,181	-	-	31,181
Capital and reserves	336,135	-	-	336,135
	991,402	144,847	38,955	1,169,981

B. Consolidated Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Year Ended 31 December 1984

	IFLA Headquarters Dfls	UBC London Dfls	UAP Boston Spa Dfls	Total Dfls
Income:				
Membership fees	657,518	-	-	657,518
General grants	184,851	-	-	184,851
PMC grants	-	89,812	65,920	155,732
Special grants	74,556	948	-	74,556[1]
Unesco contracts and seminars	116,348	-	-	116,348
Sales of publications and royalties	25,362	74,967[2]	-	100,329
Miscellaneous	92,415	4,721	507	97,643
	1,151,050	170,448	66,427	1,386,977
Expenditure:				
Conferences, meetings, H.Q. conferences	93,218	3,679	3,053	99,950
Professional programmes	232,959	-	5,377	237,388[1]
Unesco contracts and seminars	112,230	-	-	112,230
Cost of publications	154,690	17,267[2]	-	171,957
Staff expenses (including professional staff)	335,840	105,155	67,617	508,612
Office premises	1,764	-	-	1,764
Office expenses	101,153	9,884	-	111,037
Miscellaneous	4,818	-	21	4,839
	1,036,672	135,985	76,068	1,247,777
Surplus (deficit) of income over expenditure	114,378	34,463	(9,641)	139,200
Taxation	-	1,182	-	1,182
Surplus/(deficit)	114,378	33,281	(9,641)	138,018
Taken to PMC funds	-	33,281	(9,641)	23,640
Taken to capital and reserves	114,378	-	-	114,378
	114,378	33,281	(9,641)	138,018

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, CHICAGO

1985

Open Forum on
IFLA Core Programmes

116-CORE-1-E

Background and current achievements of the International MARC Project-Deutsche Bibliothek (IMP-DB)

by

Dr. Dieter WOLF
Head of International MARC Project-
Deutsche Bibliothek (IMP-DB)
Frankfurt am Main, Federal Republic of Germany

K E Y W O R D (S):

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To be brought to meeting no:
251

Remarks:
to be presented orally ☒
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Background and current achievements of the International MARC Project-Deutsche Bibliothek (IMP-DB)

In 1979 IFLA launched an International MARC Programme. Originally, it was to be realized through an International MARC Office (IMO) and an International MARC Technical Centre (IMTC). Upon the recommendation of the International MARC Network Advisory Committee (IMNAC) the establishment of an IMO received priority, whileas that of an IMTC was postponed. On January 1, 1983, the IMO was established at the Deutsche Bibliothek in Frankfurt am Main, with the financial support of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Society) and within the framework of a time-limited project. The project was initially planned to last only three years. In the meantime, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft has granted an extention until the end of 1986 while making clear, however, that a further extention will not be possible.

Conflicting viewpoints between the Deutsche Bibliothek and the IMNAC as to the Office's range and duration of duties soon-after caused the concept of an IMO to be reevaluated. At the IFLA Conference in München in 1983, the IFLA Programme Management Committee thereupon resolved, with the Deutsche Bibliothek's consent, to replace the IMO by an IFLA International MARC Programme consisting of an International MARC Project at the Deutsche Bibliothek (IMP-DB), and an International MARC Project at the British Library (IMP-BL) in London. The two projects would divide between themselves the duties originally intended for the IMO.

In what concerns the IMP-DB, these new tasks are the following:

1) editing, printing and distributing an International Guide to MARC Databases and Services;
2) editing, printing and distributing an IMP Newsletter which is to inform about activities, events and new developments in connection with UNIMARC and the MARC network;
3) testing the UNIMARC format on the basis of the UNIMARC Handbook through the conversion of the Deutsche Bibliothek's MAB (Maschinelles Austauschformat für Bibliotheken) 1 tapes to UNIMARC;
4) collaborating in the production of feasibility studies in which the most effective methods for an international transfer of bibliographic data in machine-readable form should be examined.

The production of the International Guide to MARC Databases and Services has been the most important duty accomplished by the IMP-DB until now. The first edition, covering national magnetic tape services currently offered and planned at national bibliographic agencies world-wide, was published in 1983 and has received wide distribution. The second edition is in preparation and will be published in 1986. It will not only provide an up-date of the data from the first edition but will also include descriptions of online services offered and planned by national bibliographic agencies.

In order for the International Guide to MARC Databases and Services to be of longlasting use to the library community, it must be consistently updated. Possibilities should thus be

searched to continue its publication beyond 1986.

Since producing the Guide, the IMP-DB has been continuously busy with the editing of the IMP Newsletter. This new journal is a means of communication for all those interested in some way in the further development of MARC formats, especially UNIMARC, and in an international MARC network. The IMP Newsletter informs about the latest activities in this area, and about plans being developed or carried out by both MARC projects and other persons and institutions involved with the MARC Programme.

The IMP Newsletter is published irregularly and is distributed free of charge. Over 340 individuals and institutions currently subscribe to the Newsletter. The first issue appeared in March 1984 and since then, three other issues have followed, the latest this July - copies are available, by the way, at the Open Forum. If you would like to be placed on our mailing list, I refer you to the IFLA booth in the Exhibition Hall.

Like the Guide, the IMP Newsletter is a very important part of the International MARC Programme. One should thus try to guarantee that the Newsletter continue to be published beyond 1986.

Testing of the UNIMARC format at the Deutsche Bibliothek, through the conversion of the Library's records from MAB 1 to UNIMARC, has been under way since Spring 1984. The Deutsche Bibliothek's EDP Department is undertaking this task under commission from the IMP-DB.

Work in this area has made great progress. A concordance

between the MAB 1 and UNIMARC fields has already been made and the conversion of the field contents has been undertaken. Recently, the EDP Department sent a test tape to the Library of Congress and is now awaiting comments.

In undertaking its task, the EDP department has maintained strong contact with the International MARC Project at the British Library and has made use of the latter's UNIMARC Handbook.

It should finally be mentioned that, at the beginning of this year, the IMP-DB made suggestions for carrying out a feasibility study on the possible organization of a future international MARC network. The draft of an extensive questionnaire which was to serve as basis for this study and was to be sent to all national bibliographic agencies, was discussed at the meeting of the International MARC Network Advisory Committee in London last March. In view of the fact that the exchange of machine-readable bibliographic records between national libraries is presently still in its beginnings, it was agreed to postpone such a study for the time being. At the next IMNAC meeting which will take place this week, an alternative study will be decided on. Possible topics may be an investigation of the current situation in the international exchange of data between national bibliographic agencies, or a study on some specific problem within this area.

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, CHICAGO

Open Forum on

IFLA Core Programmes

1985

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Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World

by
Margreet WIJNSTROOM
Secretary General IFLA

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Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World

Report to the Open Forum on the Core Programmes, Chicago 1985 by the Secretary General

A. *Retrospective 1981 - 1985*

1. Regional Development Fund

One of the most memorable events was the establishment in 1982 of a special Fund for regional library activities, *the IFLA Regional Library Development Fund.* At the end of July 1985 as this report is being written, the Fund's capital was just over 41,000 Dutch guilders. In the course of 1983/1984 the following contributions were made from the Fund's resources:

- to 7 colleagues from developing countries towards participation in IFLA meetings 6174 Dfl.
- to 3 institutional members in the Third World for membership to IFLA 900 Dfl.

It is expected that a considerable further claim on the limited resources will be laid for Third World participation in the Chicago Conference, and in the Conference of Directors of National Libraries.

The Fund derived its income from

- general IFLA funds 52 %
- personal contributions 6 %
- library associations 42 %

But is must be noted that so far the only contributions made in 1985 were a large contribution from IFLA itself (Dfl. 10,000) and a small personal gesture (Dfl. 10).

The appeal made by the Secretary General in a letter to all member associations in industrial countries in May 1985 yielded no results in terms of financial contributions. It may, therefore, be feared that the Fund's resources will quickly be exhausted, and that little real support can be offered in this way in the years to come.

2. Unesco

One of the main sources for advancement of librarianship in the Third World is Unesco, and in particular those Unesco contracts which enabled IFLA to organize training seminars for Third world colleagues.

When analyzing the contracts as concluded between IFLA and Unesco in the period 1981 - July 1985, it is obvious that IFLA could not have made any reasonable progress with its Third World programme without Unesco's support:

Third World seminars/research	$ 97,000
UAP in Third World	$ 36,500

Moreover, most of the research contracts extended to IFLA professional groups ($ 29,000), to the UBC programme ($ 30,500) as well as the remaining UAP contracts ($ 50,000) were also partly geared to the requirements of Third World librarianship.

The total Unesco contract monies in those 4½ years amounted, therefore, to $ 243,000, and must be regarded as a powerful force in building up the IFLA core programmes.

3. Canadian International Development Agency

Since the early 70s CIDA has been the second driving force in IFLA's Third World programmes. In the period 1981 - 1983 a contribution of Can. $ 50,000 was allotted to IFLA for - predominantly - library work at the grass roots level. These projects concerned:

- the provision of teaching materials to blind children in Sierra Leone
- home libraries in Zimbabwe
- the maintenance of a referral service on library personnel in Asia and Oceania
- functions and manpower development of library systems in Southern Africa
- the deveopment of reading in Senegal

In 1984 no CIDA support was received, but for 1985/86 the prospects are more sunny (see B 10).

4. Martinus Nijhoff Study Grant

This grant from the well known Dutch publishing company was established in 1977 as a jubilee gift to IFLA. The purpose of the annual grant is to enable experts from the Third World to study a specific subject matter in library science in one or more Western European countries.

The recipients in the report period were:

1981: Ms. Morayo Ibironke Atinmo (Nigeria)
1982: R. Ramachandran (Singapore)
1983: Ms. Gloria Gasperini (Uruquay)
1984: Ms. Zeineb Guéhiss (Tunesia)
Mr. N.U. Yapa (Sri Lanka)
1985: Ms. Jusni Djatin (Indonesia)
Ms. Namtrip Wipawin (Thailand).

The grant - capitalized - represents a value of about Dfl. 15,000 per grantee, which means that Nijhoff contributed more than Dfl. 100,000 to the furtherance of Third World librarianship in the last five years.

5. Sponsorships of IFLA dues

Each year about 26 IFLA members in developing countries are enabled by relatively more advanced library associations and institutions in the UK, Scandinavia and the Netherlands to join IFLA.
This gesture of solidarity is very much appreciated by the recipients. Expressed in guilders, this support of the Third World amounts to Dfl. 7800 annually.

6. IFLA General Conference 1984 in Nairobi

That the profession in the Third World has become an active component of the IFLA structure was convincingly proved by Kenyan librarianship which hosted the IFLA General Conference in 1984 with support of the Government of Kenya. The Conference was a rewarding professional experience and an outstanding accomplishment.

7. Further assistance to the organization of pre-session seminars

Not forgotten must be the support given to the organization of the so-called pre-session seminars, preceding the IFLA Conferences, other than the Unesco contributions.
The host countries made considerable efforts in securing accommodation and further facilities for the ± 20 participants each year, and also enabled the participants to attend the IFLA General Conference.
Such support was given in Leipzig (1981), Montreal (1982), Munich (1983), Nairobi (1984) and Chicago (1985): a really marvellous contribution to the involvement of Third World librarianship in the IFLA activities.
Other seminar funding came from the Deutsche Stiftung fÜr Internationale Entwicklung, IDRC (Canada) and the French Government. And here one must not overloop the voluntary contributions of commercial firms, in particular publishing firms, but also other library suppliers, which use to assist IFLA in making Conferences and seminars a success.

8. National efforts

As a reaction to the appeal made by the Secretary General in May 1985 some national associations sent an overview of their efforts in helping

colleagues in the Third World.

The example of the Finnish Library Association may be inspiring for others. They sponsored:

(1) a visit of a Zimbabwean librarian to Finland in November 1984

(2) campaigns for projects included in the Unesco Co-Action Programme, such as:

UCA 56: Educate a child for one year

UCA 91: Library project of Mazimbu

UCA 92: A women-project in Guyana

UCA 533: A book for every child

(3) scholarships for library studies in Finland starting 1985

- one student from SWAPO (South-West Africa people's organization)
- one student from ANC (African National Congress)

(4) the costs of a library consultant to Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College in Tanzania.

In this context must be referred to the IFLA Books for All Project in the context of the Unesco Co-Action Programme, for which Margaret Marshall is collecting donations, and very successfully too!

Another fine example of realistic assistance, fully paid from voluntary member contributions, has been set by the Dutch Public Library Centre (NBLC). Each year a project is being defined for which voluntary contributions are solicited. The money acquired in this way, between 10 and 15,000 Dutch guilders annually, is chanelled through IFLA HQ which makes sure that the money is used well for the projects as indicated by the Dutch Library Centre.

Some of these projects were:

- development of basic collections of books in school libraries in Kenya
- strengthening of the collection of the Library of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies
- contribution towards a literacy programme in Nicaragua by the provision of book collections in schools and community centres
- a grant to the Sierra Leone Library Board for the purchase of books, especially for primary schools
- the purchase of tape recorders and tapes for recording information in the vernacular languages in The Gambia, thus supporting a programme to combat illiteracy.

The British Library Association, already most active within their branches in sponsoring small emerging associations in meeting their IFLA dues sent a further encouraging letter to the officers of groups working within the association.

Quite another type of practical support in kind is offered by a range of Socialist Countries. As an example the printing and the distribution to developing countries of 500 copies of the "Guidelines for National Planning of the Availability of Publications" is mentioned. This free of charge service rendered by the National Technical and Information Centre in Budapest could be estimated on a contribution of £ 5000.

B. *Looking ahead*

In the former paragraph the future has already been mentioned. It is hoped that the examples of a few will inspire the action-oriented solidarity of many!

9. Medium-Term Programme 1986-1991

IFLA is trying to open up other channels of possible funding for the Third World programme as it is envisaged in the Medium-Term Programme 1986-1991, but progress is still far too slow. The MTP (par. 1.10) expresses this concern as follows:

"Finance, however, has been and will continue to be the principal difficulty in securing greater participation in IFLA by librarians from developing countries (...). IFLA will seek, for the MTP, adequate funding to enable the Regional Offices to continue, to hold regular meetings of Regional Section Standing Committees (...), to develop regional projects, and in other ways to give librarians from all over the world an equal opportunity to contribute to IFLA's work".

In 2.6 of the MTP the programme objectives, orientation, and action areas are further defined without any indication of the sources of funding . In so far as the MTP is a guiding dream which may or may not be realized much will depend on the attitude of the library world itself. The Secretary General expressed it in her letter of May 1985 as follows:

"If we - together - could prove by our positive actions that we, as professionals, are really concerned about the global development of librarianship, we will have a stronger position when requesting funds

from governmental organizations for this purpose". Another factor of decisive importance will be the functioning of the regional offices in the renewed structure. It is hoped that in some cases the combined strength of FID, ICA and IFLA may be used.

10. Funding actions

Emphasis will be placed on a re-awakening of the interest of Canadian funding agencies, such as CIDA and IDRC.
Canada has in many ways served as a leading force in development aid, also in librarianship. The Secretary General submitted in April 1985 a renewed request for support to CIDA concentrating on two categories:

(A) Projects aiming at the strengthening of the regional infrastructure of librarianship as coordinated by IFLA

(B) Projects aiming at the strengthening of the involvement of women in the Third World in the decision-making process.

Through the Programme Development Officer (PDO) possible areas of cooperation with IDRC are presently explored.

A totally new approach has been made to the UN Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development which met in New York, 28 May - 7 June 1985. IFLA submitted an ambitious pilot project in the sphere of UAP: The improved availability of scientific and technological journals to less developed countries. The budgetary forecast amounted to appr. US $ 100,000. At this moment it is not yet clear what decision has been taken at the UN level.
IFLA also distributed a background document on its Third World programme, as reflected in the MTP 1986-1991 to the UN High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, which met in New York in May 1985.

Unesco, notwithstanding its financial constraints, will do its utmost to maintain its high standard in giving support to the IFLA activities in the Third World. The pre-session seminars will be supported as usual, also here in Chicago, where - by the way - the American Organizing Committee managed in a remarkable way to find funding sources enabling them to bring many Latin American colleagues to this conference and for the first time to use Spanish as an IFLA conference language. Moreover, a training seminar

on UAP will be organized in the autumn of this year in India.
The Unesco Programme and Budget 1986-1987 is certainly making provisions for programmes and projects fitting into the IFLA MTP. It is up to the Regional Sections themselves to take advantage of these possibilities, and to submit immediately after this conference a number of well-defined projects to the IFLA Professional Board.

Another new approach has been made to the Dutch authorities, for the time being without direct results. However, after consultations had been held between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and IFLA HQ staff, the Minister of Development informed the Dutch Embassies that requests for funding of library projects can now be taken into account in the context of the so-called "Small Embassy Projects". The Professional Coordinator of IFLA alerted the regional officers by a letter of 20 June 1985, and in this conference a further consultation on the matter has been held.

IFLA is also looking ahead to the General Conference 1986 (Tokyo) in which a pre-session on the role of special libraries in national development is being planned, while in 1987 (Brighton) a joint pre-session programme is being developed by IFLA/FID/ICA on the harmonization of education and training for librarians, archivists and documentalists.
A post conference seminar - also on library education aspects - is being planned in Beijing (China) following the Tokyo Conference, etc...,etc., etc... Busy times are ahead, no doubt!
It is impossible to be exhaustive. With the little manpower we have at HQ, at the core programme focal points and in the regions we try to work miracles. But eilas,miracles are not the most stable basis for one's planning. The effort to work them is, however, already so inspiring that in any case - if not great miracles - minor achievements will encourage us to proceed undauntedly even while meeting with the inevitable disappointments.

As Secretary General I can only assure you that we will work hard in this field and that

we <u>shall</u> overcome!

IFLA

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Open Forum: IFLA Core Programmes

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UAP: PROGRESS REPORT

Stephen C. J. Vickers

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This report supplements and brings up to date the annual report for 1984 published in IFLA Journal, 1985, 11 (2), 175-179

1. UAP Advisory Committee

P Kaegbein has been nominated to fill the remaining vacancy for a representative of the Division of Education and Research. Membership of the Committee is now complete. In accordance with the Terms of Reference approved by IFLA's Programme Management Committee, a number of appointments will be reviewed during the Annual Conference in Chicago.

2. Meetings

Much attention has been given in the development of the programme to pubicity. This is needed to draw attention to the need for improved availability; to methods of achieving it; and to the existence of an international programme that can offer guidance, advice and practical help. A key element in the publicity programme has been meetings on UAP. These have been organized at various levels from the Unesco/IFLA International Congress on UAP, through regional meetings held in Boston Spa and Nairobi, to national meetings held, for example, in the Netherlands and UK. Programme staff have also attended many other meetings to talk on UAP. However, the number of meetings that programme staff can attend is limited by time and money. A number of requests from different countries for guidance and advice on the content and format of meetings on UAP have been received and Unesco generously agreed to fund the production of a Guide to the organization of meetings on UAP. A first draft was submitted in June. It includes an introductory background, considers the role of meetings on UAP and discusses factors to be borne in mind when planning meetings. In the light of

these considerations a format for meetings is proposed and guidance given on how topics may be treated and developed. A further announcement will be made when the final text has been agreed.

Meanwhile a further regional meeting on UAP is scheduled to take place in New Delhi in October with financial support of Unesco and further meetings have been proposed for 1986.

3. Publications

No major new publications have been issued since the Annual report for 1984, though a number of articles by programme staff and others have been published.

Since the programme was launched in 1977 two publicity leaflets on UAP have been produced. While the underlying philosophy, aims and principles remain much the same, it was felt that a new leaflet should be prepared to reflect recent developments and changes in emphasis. A draft version was circulated for comment to relevant authorities. At the time of writing the English language version is available and steps are being taken to prepare French and Spanish language versions.

The 5th issue of the UAP Newsletter was published in January and the 6th in July. It continues to be produced in English and Spanish versions. No requests for other language versions have been received.

4. Research projects

Following the visit by the Programme Officer to Brazil in December 1984 to determine the aims, methodology and plan to be used for an evaluation of COMUT- a system for the provision of photocopies of journal articles to remote users -

detailed proposals were submitted early in 1985. It is known that COMUT is interested in proceeding with a full evaluation, but a decision has yet to be made by its Executive Committee. Subject to such formal agreement it is hoped that a full evaluation can take place later in 1985.

The project document drawn up by the Programme Officer under contract to Unesco elaborating the organizational and financial implications of a literature assistance programe for developing countries was circulated to Scandinavian Unesco National Commissions for Unesco - with whom the proposal originated - early in 1985. A further decision on this proposal is awaited.

Meanwhile discussions with UNCSTD (United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development) revealed that project proposals were actively being sought in the light of recommendations passed by the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development. These refer in particular to projects to ensure that institutions in developing countries acquire a basic stock of journals and literature in science and technology. There is thus some similarity to the work undertaken for Unesco. Detailed proposals have been made to the Intergovernmental Committee and a decision is awaited.

A major research project has been initiated with the financial support of Unesco for the design and development of a national document availability system. Programme staff have always insisted that UAP is not a theoretical ideal but a practical programme. Senegal, through the Direction des Archives submitted a proposal to Unesco for support in this area and the Programme Officer was contracted to undertake the work. The project aims to evaluate environmental factors, present needs, latent needs and likely future demand and to assess existing resources and services. On the basis of this data proposals for improvement will be presented to a national seminar to ensure their acceptability to officials, professionals and users. Once agreement on the optimum acceptable

solution has been reached a detailed plan for implementation can be drawn up. The Programme Officer spent two weeks in June in Senegal visiting a range of institutions to collect relevant data. On the basis of this and further data, proposals will be made to a seminar, hopefully later this year.

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PROFESSIONAL BOARD

OPEN FORUM

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The Functioning of an IFLA division

by

Max Broome

Chairman

Division of Libraries Serving the General Public

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IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE CHICAGO 1985

PROFESSIONAL BOARD

The Functioning of an IFLA division

by

Max Broome
Chairman
Division of Libraries Serving the General Public

Abstract

Reflections on the role of divisions in the organisational structure of IFLA and an analysis of the work of IFLA's largest and most complex division - the Division of Libraries Serving the General Public

THE FUNCTIONING OF AN IFLA DIVISION

Max Broome

Division of Libraries Serving the General Public

An outsider studying the organisation of IFLA might well conclude that its officers and governing bodies had succeeded in imposing a disciplined structure on the unwieldy mass of the world's librarians. Nothing could be further from the truth. The structure abounds in contradictions, cross classifications and compromises. It could hardly be otherwise when one considers the complexities of geography, functions and interests which are embraced by IFLA.

The Division of Libraries Serving the General Public reflects in microcosm this inherent lack of structural cohesion. Theoretically of course the common thread which holds together the interests of the different sections and round tables which comprise the Division is the public they serve - and by implication the public seeking a broadly based general service rather than pursuing a special interest. Even this definition is unsatisfactory, for those of us who work in public libraries know that many of our customers use public libraries for specialist study and that many public librarians have built up special collections which, if separately housed and administered, would certainly qualify for Irwin Pizer's definition of a special library as "libraries or departments and service units within libraries which are devoted to a particular discipline or groups of disciplines or which provide services to users interested in a particular profession, activity or project." (1)

This definition would also fit admirably two round tables which are part of the Division of Libraries Serving the General Public! The Round Table of National Centres for Library Services (ROTNAC), whose customers are not the general public, but public library authorities. And it is difficult to think of anything more specialised than the Round Table of Librarians representing Documentation Centres Serving Research on Children's Literature!

I have argued this point at some length, not because I regard correct classification as vital in this context, but because it underlines a point I do think is worth making about the nature of divisions in IFLA. They are not the cohesive units which some people think them to be, each operating tightly coordinated programmes. On the contrary they are better described as loose, uneasy coalitions which are little more than administrative conveniences for the handling of IFLA's work.

Perhaps I should qualify what I have said by making clear that my observations are based on experience as Chairman of IFLA's largest and most complex division. Possibly the Division of Bibliographic Control, with only three closely related sections, is much closer to the model which the organisation planners had in mind when they created the structure of IFLA! By contrast the Division of Libraries Serving the General Public has no less than five sections and five round tables, and even now there are additional groups of librarians with common interests knocking on the door.

The range of interests already spanned by existing groups is extensive. Let me remind you of the coverage. I have already mentioned the Round Table of National Centres for Library Services (ROTNAC) and the Round Table of Librarians representing Documentation Centres Serving Research on Children's Literature. Other round tables are the International Association of Metropolitan City Librarians (INTAMEL); Library Services to Ethnic and Linguistic Minorities; and Mobile Libraries. INTAMEL, as many of you will know, is a successful, thriving if somewhat exclusive organisation. It is largely a law unto itself, rarely submits any reports and is seldom represented at the three meetings of the Coordinating Board which we hold each year in an effort to harmonise the work of the Division. Other round tables, while firmly part of the Division, are much less active; still others rival or even surpass the Sections, with ambitious and well planned programmes. Indeed a round table can equip itself with officers and a panel of advisers and operate in a way which makes it virtually indistinguishable from a properly constituted and recognised section. At least one round table in the Division qualifies for this description at the moment and will win promotion if it continues to perform as successfully as it has over the past year or two.

It is worth making a point at this juncture about the fluctuating fortunes of groups within IFLA. The election of a committee of able librarians, and in particular the appointment of officers who are energetic and effective, can result in a surge of activity. Conversely a change in officers, or even a change in the work situation of existing officers, can bring activity to a virtual halt. Cessation of activity in the short term does

not necessarily bring disbandment - a long term view has to be taken in these matters - but it should be an important duty of a divisional coordinating board to exercise judgement and to decide whether or not the time has come to recommend closure of a section or round table, perhaps temporarily, or conversely, to create new groups.

Let me turn now to the five sections. These are:

Children's Libraries

School Libraries

Public Libraries

Libraries for the Blind

Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons

Cross classification again you will notice, for is not a blind person also disadvantaged? And if that same person is also a child who happens to belong to an ethnic minority, the competing interests can be fierce! In practice, of course, competing claims are amicably resolved. Many are sorted out quite naturally, but it is the task of the Coordinating Board to ensure that duplication of effort is kept to the minimum and, more importantly, that joint working on projects which span the interests of more than one section or round table, is promoted.

In the time available it is quite impossible for me even to catalogue the extensive range of work in which all the round tables and sections are engaged, let alone detail pasts achievements or future plans. What I can try to do is to give you a flavour of this work by mentioning a few selected projects and activities.

Communication is obviously important. No one will support an organisation if they do not know what it is doing, and there is an additional important need within a professional organisation to promote the exchange of ideas and good practice. Many sections and round tables produce regular newsletters - the well produced newsletter of ROTNAC, for example, is outstanding, and that of the Round Table on Library Service to Ethnic and Linguistic Minorities is now so well established that it is offered on subscription. Others, like the Section of Public Libraries, do not, and this is a matter for regret.

Each section and round table is expected to produce an annual report, and these are presented to an open meeting at the conference organised by the Division. Last year the pattern of the meeting was changed to allow time for the presentation in depth of the work of the Section of Libraries for the Blind. This was so successful that a similar arrangement is being adopted this year with the work of the Round Table on Library Services to Ethnic and Linguistic Minorities being highlighted.

Education. The organisation of seminars or expert meetings is frequently undertaken by the sections and round tables. The Section of Libraries for the Blind, for example, has just concluded an ambitious, well attended three day meeting in Washington, DC. In a rather different way the Section of Public Libraries has played a leading role in the organisation of pre-conference seminars in both Nairobi and Chicago. These seminars, designed specifically for invited participants from developing countries, are financially supported by Unesco. In Nairobi, too, the Section of School Libraries broke new ground by abandoning the usual planned sessions and holding a most successful one day seminar within the framework of the conference.

Research, investigations and surveys are frequently undertaken by sections and round tables, often under the aegis of specially appointed working groups, or occasionally by a contractor, sometimes with external assistance. The Section of Public Libraries, for example, working in cooperation with the Section on Information Technology and the Round Table on Audiovisual Media, has in the past eighteen months completed a survey of the impact of information technology on public libraries. The results were presented to the conference last year in Nairobi, and are shortly to be published as an IFLA Professional Report.

Publications are frequently the objective of working groups. Usually these take the form of working tools. The Directory of Tactile Map Producers, Guidelines for Public Libraries, and Guidelines for the Instruction of Teachers in Training on the Educational/Curricular Use of School Libraries, are all examples of publications currently being prepared by different sections in the Division.

Projects. The Section of Libraries for the Blind's production and sponsorship of a logo for use internationally on postal packets of materials for the visually handicapped is one example of a simple but effective project which sections and round tables undertake. Much more ambitious is the Section of Children's Libraries' support, with assistance from the Canadian International Development Agency, of neighbourhood story-telling and home library groups in Zimbabwe. This project developed as a result of the Pre-Session Seminar in Leipzig in 1981 which was organised by the Section.

You will see from the examples of recent and current work which I have given that the Division is very much a sum of its constituent parts. It ought, of course, to be more than this. You will gather from my earlier remarks that I am not convinced that this is so - certainly not in the case of the Division of Libraries Serving the General Public. In an effort to promote a sense of corporate identity some divisions publish divisional newsletters. In the case of my own particular division I do not judge this to be feasible - the spread of interests are too wide. The Coordinating Board has therefore adopted a different strategy. The approval of the new Medium Term Programme will allow work to start on a number of projects which require the cross involvement of sections and round tables.
They include:

The preparation and publication of a compendium of guidelines and standards produced by the Division's sections and round tables.

A study of the role of libraries serving the general public in the provision of library services for the elderly.

The encouragement of the establishment of indigenous publishing activities in developing countries.

This look to the future and the positive attempts to promote coordination seems an appropriate note on which to end. The fissiparous tendency of librarians to split into small groups when they come together is a source of concern to some - it certainly results in organisational complexity.

However, the strong sense of identity which can be achieved with smaller groupings can also be regarded as a source of strength, providing pragmatic, sensible and flexible arrangements are in place to bring groups together when necessary and to promote their involvement in the overall organisation. The divisional structure of IFLA, though open to criticism, appears to achieve this objective. This is primarily because key individuals are aware of the dangers of fragmentation and work as I have tried to show, through divisional coordinating boards to harmonise the work of the individuals and groups which make up the membership of IFLA.

REFERENCE

(1) Functioning of a division of types of libraries, a paper presented by Irwin Pizer, Chairman, Division of Special Libraries, at an open meeting of the Professional Board, Munich, August 1983.

IFLA

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IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, CHICAGO

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OPEN FORUM ON IFLA CORE PROGRAMMES

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REVIEW OF IFLA'S REGIONAL PROGRAM "THE 25 ESSENTIAL POINTS" IN PERSPECTIVE

by

J.S. SOOSAI, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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REVIEW OF IFLA'S REGIONAL PROGRAM - "The 25 Essential Points" in Perspective

by

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IFLA's regional programme came under close scrutiny at a two day brainstorming session held at the IFLA HQ in the Hague on the 12th and 13th of September 1984. The meeting, the first of its kind, was chaired by the Chairman of the Professional Board and was attended by the chairpersons of the Regional Sections for Asia and Oceania and that of Latin America and the Caribbean. Unfortunately, the chairperson of the Regional Section for Africa was unable to attend the meeting. The IFLA Professional Co-ordinator was also in attendance.

The so-called "25 essential points" that emanated from the meeting attempted to provide some basic guidelines to make the regional programme more effective. To start with, the geographical coverage of the regional section for Asia was extended to include Asia and Oceania. In order to bring about a more representative participation on the Regional Standing Advisory Committees, each of the three regional sections were subdivided into five sub-regions, from which at least two members are expected to be nominated to the Regional Standing Advisory Committee. An important consideration to ensure the success and effectiveness of the newly composed Regional Standing Advisory Committees is to provide an opportunity to meet at least once a year. This has been the most telling factor in the past that has resulted in the relative inactiveness and dormancy of the regional sections.

The meeting also discussed the location and management of the Regional offices. The consensus was overwhelming in favour of maintaining the Regional offices at a permanent address as far as possible. The IFLA Executive Board, on the recommendation of the Professional Board, will decide on the choice of the location of the Regional offices.

An IFLA Regional Manager will be appointed for the management of the Regional office which will undertake the following responsibilities:

- To act as a clearing house for IFLA Conference papers and IFLA publications in the region.
- To produce and distribute the regional Newsletter.
- To act as the information and publicity centre on IFLA for the region.
- To handle all monetary transactions related to the running of the office in the region.

The Regional Manager who will be appointed by IFLA on the recommendation of the Professional Board, will undertake all those responsibilities which are requested by the IFLA steering bodies from time to time.

Though the Regional Manager cannot serve as an elected IFLA officer, he will be an ex-officio member of the Regional Standing Committee as well as the co-ordinating board of the Division of Regional activities. The Regional Manager will for obvious reasons maintain close interaction with the chairman and secretary of the regional advisory committees, and try to attend IFLA General Conferences where possible.

The composition of the Co-ordinating Board of the Division of Regional Activities will include the Chairmen and Secretaries of the Regional Sections as well as the Regional Managers. It is also envisaged that the Division of Regional Activities will be represented on the Professional Board on a rotational basis, thus giving every regional section the opportunity to have one of its officers serve on the PB. Notwithstanding this, the Chairman of the Professional Board may exercise his prerogative to invite experts from the Regional Sections not represented on the PB to attend PB meetings held during the IFLA General Conferences when deemed necessary.

Increasing concern was expressed on the poor representation of third world countries on the various IFLA professional sections. Further-

more, it was also noted there was little or no co-ordination between the activities of the IFLA professional sections and that of the regional sections, especially when certain projects are carried out by the IFLA professional sections in the developing regions. The meeting identified about 23 IFLA professional sections in which representation from the three regions of the developing world are considered necessary. Regional Standing Advisory Committee members of the three regional sections will also be encouraged to participate in the professional sections as far as possible, to bring about a closer interaction between the professional and regional sections. It has been emphasised that all IFLA projects undertaken in any of the developing regions should be done in close mutual co-operation between the professional and regional sections.

The meeting acknowledged the importance of including the "Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World" in IFLA's core programme. However, the implementation of this programme should reflect the needs of the different regions and should be guided by an advisory committee with representatives from the three Regional Sections.

With IFLA's expanding world wide membership including more than 80 countries in the developing regions of the world, it was the unanimous feeling of the meeting that third world representation on the IFLA Executive Board was very important. However, the meeting took note of the fact that the present statutes do not provide for any preferential representation of the third world on the EB. It was then suggested that in the event a third world member does not get elected to the Executive Board in Chicago, the EB may have to exercise Art. 16.4 of the Statutes and invite an appropriate representative from the third world to attend the EB meetings in a consultative capacity if funds are available.

Last but not least, the meeting strongly recommended that IFLA should seriously reckon with the international trend to establish regional library associations, and formulate a positive policy to closely interact and co-operate with these regional bodies for the mutual benefit of both the organisations.

The above reorganisation of IFLA's regional infrastructure and programmes are expected to be implemented by the time we meet in Brighton U.K. in 1987. In the meantime, the existing members of the Regional Standing Advisory Committee have been invited to continue in office until 1987.

As much as the rationale of the above guidelines and reorganisation of IFLA regional programme can be appreciated, the successful implementation of the revised programme will very much depend on two important factors - viz. the availability of sufficient funds to support the regional programme and the choice of the right people who have the interest and dedication to serve the cause of third world librarianship to be nominated to the Regional Standing Advisory Committee. IFLA needs to strive very hard to achieve these necessary pre-requisites.

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